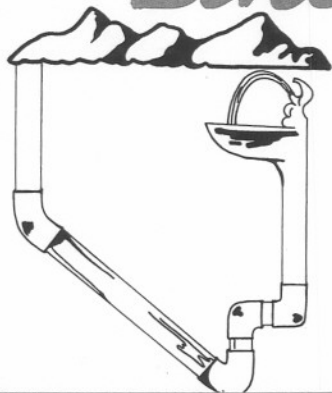


Water Lines



Water Lines is the resource newsletter and calendar of the Nevada Drinking Water and Wastewater Training Coalition.

Volume 9

Fall 2002 issue

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Water Lines Special Insert

Technical Assistance
Sources for
Rural Nevada's Utility and
Infrastructure Systems

Water Lines is funded
by **Rural Community
Assistance Corporation**
through a contract with the
Nevada State Health Division.

Editor, Abigail Johnson, RCAC
Editor and Production,
Julia Helmreich, RCAC

Certification Board seeks operator input

By Darrin Price, Advisory Board for Certification of
Operators of Public Water Systems

Let me begin by stating the obvious — the Advisory Board to the State Board of Health for Certification of Operators of Public Water Systems (say that three times fast!) acts in an advisory capacity in matters related to Nevada's operator certification program, which is administered by the Nevada State Health Division, Bureau of Health Protection Services.

The Advisory Board is made up of small, medium and large water system operators from around the state who, like you, are down in the trenches every day.

The Board has the responsibility of ensuring a successful certification program for all Nevada water system operators that is fair, well structured and representative of small, medium and large systems. We do this by reviewing current and proposed regulations, recommending

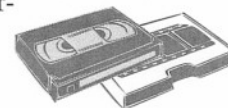
changes to proposed regulations, and evaluating and recommending training and education issues related to operator training.

**WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR
WAYS TO REACH OPERATORS —
TO IMPROVE THE CURRENT SYSTEM
AND TO PROVIDE FEEDBACK ON
THEIR NEEDS.**

The Advisory Board's greatest role is representing the wide range of water operators in Nevada while exploring new opportunities and options to meet operator needs, and ensuring compliance with state and federal regulations. The Board also reviews certification programs from many other states and seeks advice from leading experts on certification and training.

(Continued on page 2)

The University of Nevada and Cooperative Extension, with funding from the State Revolving Fund, will host an informational videoconference seminar on the new arsenic rule for small water system managers, owners, operators and board members.



Videoconference: Arsenic Treatment Options for Small Systems in Nevada

Date: Wednesday, Oct. 30, 2002

Time: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Locations: Reno, Elko, Carson City, Las Vegas and Tonopah

Part I — 9 a.m.-11 a.m. — Bruce Macler, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency — federal requirements, adoption, treatment options, issues.

Part II — 11 a.m.-noon, 1 p.m.-1:30 p.m. — Galen Denio, Nevada Bureau of Health Protection Services — TA for public water supply compliance.

Part III — 1:30 p.m.- 3 p.m. — Narasimhan Consulting Services, Arizona — Pros and cons of using Point of Use technology in State Coach, Nevada.

Registration and information: Mark Walker at 775/784-1938 or Crystel C. Montecinos at 775/784-6853. ♠



We are very sorry! The photograph featuring Nevada's Top Ops winners from the California/Nevada Section of the American Water Works Association competition showed another winning team. Two Nevada teams reached the Finals. The Hi-Desert Tsunami (Truckee Meadows Water Authority, Reno) finished second and the City of Henderson's Flocculators finished third. The three-member Flocculator Team shown here are: Tom Grodski, Tim Kelly and Kevin Cenicerros. 💧

Operator Certification Board

(Continued from page 1)

Ironically, one of our greatest challenges is water system operator participation! We are always looking for ways to reach operators — to improve the current system and to provide feedback on their needs.

We encourage all water system operators to attend our meetings and/or send comments. To be added to the mailing list and receive meeting notices, contact Julie Flanagan at 775/687-4750 ext. 267; or e-mail her at jflanagan@nvhd.state.nv.us. For more information, go to the certification board's website at www.health2k.state.nv.us/bhps/phe/sdwp.htm.

By playing an active role in the decision-making progress, together we can shape our own destiny. 💧

Farm Bill funds fortunate four

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced funding of four projects in Nevada from the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002. The projects will be used to spur economic growth, create jobs and help the environment through building and upgrading water and waste disposal facilities.

The following projects were funded through the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002: Lander County Combined Sewer and Water District No. 2, Austin; Lyon County – Dayton Utilities, Moundhouse Water System; Lyon County – Silver Springs Mutual Water Company; and Mineral County – Walker Lake General Improvement District. 💧

The Spigot



Q & A

Q1. What is the difference between palatable and potable water?

A1. *Palatable water* does not give off unpleasant taste and odor, is cool in temperature, and has low color and turbidity. *Palatable water* is pleasant to drink. *Potable water* is satisfactorily safe for drinking purposes from the standpoint of its chemical, physical and biological characteristics.

Source: *ACR Publications Inc., Introduction to Small Water Systems, 1999*

Q2. What effects do iron and manganese have on drinking water?

A2. Iron and manganese can cause stained clothing and plumbing fixtures and they impart a foul taste and odor to drinking water. Iron bacteria causes thick slimes to form on the walls of water mains. These slimes are rust colored from iron and black from manganese. Variations in flow cause these slimes to slough, which results in dirty water. 💧

Source: *Water Treatment Plant Operation Vol I and II, K. Kerri*

Q3. What are the two general types of color found in water and what is the cause of each type?

A3. The two general types of color found in water are true color and apparent color. True color results from the presence of dissolved organic substances or from minerals, such as copper sulfate, dissolved in the water. Apparent color is caused by suspended materials (including colloidal substances).

Source: *Water Treatment Plant Operation Vol I and II, K. Kerri*

Q4. What problems are created by oil and moisture in instrument air, and how can these contaminants be removed?

A4. Oil and moisture in instrument air cause operational problems. Moisture can be removed from instrument air by using desiccators and air dryers. Oil introduced into compressor air can be removed by filtration through special oil-absorbent elements.

Source: *Water Treatment Plant Operation Vol I and II, K. Kerri*

The Spigot features Q&A on a variety of topics with typical certification exam questions. The Spigot is prepared by Crystel Montecinos, Program Development Specialist, UNR Cooperative Extension. 💧

Board of Health okays new operator certification regulations

By Galen Denio, Nevada State Health Division

The amended Safe Drinking Water Act requires that states establish or revise operator certification programs to meet regulations of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) no later than Sept. 30 to avoid a 20 percent fund withholding for Drinking Water State Revolving Fund capitalization grants. The Bureau of Health Protection Services (BHPS) worked on these regulations for more than a year to ensure that they meet federal requirements.

Nevada regulations pertaining to certifying operators for public water systems are codified in Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 445A.617 to 445A.652, inclusive. BHPS held workshops, discussions with the Advisory Board for the Certification of Operators, the EPA and stakeholders to consider and resolve all regulation amendment issues. The amendments were submitted to the Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB) in June. The State Board of Health adopted the reviewed and revised LCB version (LCB File No. R021-02) with minor changes on Aug. 16.

The amendments to the regulations:

- Clarify the duties of the "operator in responsible charge"
- Give public water systems flexibility to determine appropriate classifications of operators working under supervision of a person in responsible charge
- Require that a public water system certify the person in responsible charge at the same classification as the water system for which he/she is responsible
- Require response time for a person in responsible charge to be within four hours
- Require the state health division to periodically review public water system classification
- Provide for temporary appointment of a person in responsible charge, possibly an operator in training or a qualified person without certification, for emergencies
- Provide for temporary personnel appointments for vacation/relief
- Allow an operator who failed an examination to take the next

scheduled test instead of waiting six months

- Clarify reciprocity requirements
- Provide for an extension of renewal period in cases of illness to two years, or in cases of military duty to four years, provided that continuing education requirements are met.

The revised regulations should go into effect in September.

For more information, contact Steve Brockway or Galen Denio at BHPS at 775/ 687-4750. ♡

Grants spur rural Nevada wellhead protection plans

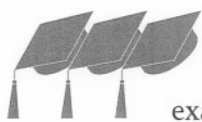
By Nevan Kane, NDEP

The following water systems have completed, or will develop, Wellhead Protection Plans using non-match grants from the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection:

Completed Plans: Beatty, Austin, Wendover, Lamoille, Battle Mountain, Winnemucca, Lemmon Valley, Fernley, Hidden Valley, Stagecoach, Cottonwood Mobile Home Park, Carson City, Yerington, Gardnerville Ranchos.

Developing Plans: Fallon, Elko, Spring Creek, Douglas County, Hawthorne, Tonopah, Caliente, Silver Springs, Lovelock Meadows, Moapa Valley Water, Eureka, Devil's Gate, Pioche, Minden, Gardnerville, Jackpot, Lyon County Systems.

Communities with completed plans are eligible for additional funds for projects, such as abandoned well inventories, public outreach, well security and home hazardous waste programs. For more information, contact NDEP at 775/687-9426. ♡



New Nevada operators certified in June

The following operators passed entry level water certification exams in June 2002 for distribution grades 1 & 2 and treatment grades 1 & 2. Congratulations to all!

Distribution grades 1 & 2

Todd F. Brewer, D-1; Richard Budes, D-1; Chris G. Crowther, D-1; Dennis E. Doby, D-1; Stephen Flynn, D-1; Vincent Gonzales, D-1; Geoffrey A. Haines, D-1; David J. Highbe, D-1; Richard P. Lauby, D-1; Bryan C. Mortensen, D-1; Roy R. Thomas, D-1; Mark A. Clarkson, D-2; Scott E. Combs, D-2; Timothy F. Holt, D-2; Jeremy P. Keele, D-2; John L. Parkin, D-2; Phyllis Radack, D-2; William D. Schnuckel, D-2; David L. Tucker, D-2. .

Treatment grades 1 & 2

Todd F. Brewer, T-1; Scott E. Combs, T-1; Mark K. Madsen, T-1; Bryan C. Mortensen, T-1; David W. Musselman, T-1; John L. Parkin, T-1; James R. Culver, T-2; Irvin C. Paulsen, T-2; William D. Schnuckel, T-2; Mike Triszczuk, T-2; Gil S. Yonashiro, T-2. ♡

Studies spotlight true cost of infrastructure improvements

By Philip Walsack, Rural Community Assistance Corporation

Infrastructure rehabilitation costs have been in the water industry spotlight recently. Four major reports on the subject have been published,¹ and all suggest that there is a national need to infuse more money into water and wastewater infrastructure. This *Water Lines* article focuses on the American Water Works Association's (AWWA) report, *Dawn of the Replacement Era*.

The AWWA published *The Dawn of the Replacement Era*, which examined 20 large utilities and projected calculations for the nation. AWWA found an \$8.3 million funding gap for infrastructure improvements.

AWWA extrapolated this figure for small systems and suggests that small utilities currently spend between \$1,490 to \$6,400 per connection on infrastructure rehabilitation, but should spend an additional \$1,100 to \$6,900. AWWA suggests that small utility rehabilitation costs range between \$2,590 and \$13,300 per connection.

Nevada has several funding sources for infrastructure rehabilitation projects. Assembly Bill 198 has provided a funding catalyst. This source, combined with funds from Nevada's Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund, the U. S. Department of Agriculture-Rural Development's loan and grant program, Community Development Block Grants, U.S. Economic Development Administration, and others, have enabled small Nevada utilities to rehabilitate their water infrastructure.

To compare Nevada water systems with the AWWA projections, we chose five Nevada rural water districts. None of these systems rehabilitated its entire infrastructure; in many cases, a complete rehabilita-



Recent studies suggest that there is a national need to infuse more money into rural water and wastewater infrastructure.

tion was not needed. In others, the community scaled back rehabilitation to maintain affordable water rates. Funding sources varied, but in most cases, multiple funding sources were used to finance the improvements. Brief descriptions of the rehabilitations follow.

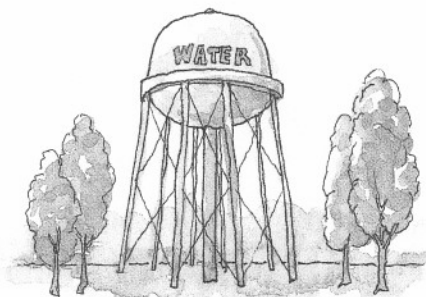
Topaz Ranch Estates (Douglas County) constructed three new storage tanks; installed six pressure reducing stations and 82 fire hydrants; and built two new booster stations. Distribution improvements included improved piping. Rehabilitation cost \$6,184 per connection — 700 connections.

Walker Lake Water District (Mineral County) built a storage tank and pressure reducing stations; laid new pipe; installed hydrants; rehabilitated a second source of supply; and made electrical upgrades. The project cost is \$7,284 per connection — 175 connections.

¹ EPA's *Infrastructure Needs Assessment - Second Report to Congress*, (1999); *Recommendations for Clean and Safe Water in the 21st Century* (2000); American Water Works Association's *The Dawn of the Replacement Era* (2001); and U.S. Congressional Budget Office's report *Future Investment in Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure* (2002).

Goldfield Utilities (Esmeralda County) built a new water storage tank; laid new distribution system pipe; equipped a second well; rehabilitated one of its booster stations; installed fire hydrants; and conducted a leak detection survey. The project cost is \$6,203 per connection — 249 connections.

Kingston Town Water system (Lander County) metered its system; replaced trunk mains; and installed a pressure-reducing station in 1995. The system is currently building a storage tank; replacing additional piping; and installing fire hydrants. The system is also upgrading groundwater wells; rebuilding pressure-reducing stations; and installing an altitude valve. The price tag is \$12,160 per connection — 118 connections.



Indian Springs Sewer Company (which provides water and sewer service) built a new storage tank. The project included excavation and roadwork; installing additional main piping, appurtenances and telemetry. ISSC spent \$2,497 per connection for this tank-only project — 211 connections.

AWWA's estimate of current water rehabilitation costs (\$1,490 to \$6,400 per connection) would not be adequate in Nevada.

(Continued on page 5)

Featured System: Austin

By Georgia Greenrod, Nevada Rural Water Association

During the gold and silver boom in the mid 1800s, Austin, Nevada was home to more than 10,000 people and was the county seat for several years. Emma Farnsworth created a private water system around this time and eventually sold it to the town of Austin in 1935. The Austin system is now called the Lander County Combined Sewer and Water District II and serves town of Austin. The system has approximately 300 connections, and 30 of those are commercial accounts.

More than 20 years ago, Ray Williams III moved to Austin, Nevada from Bend, Oregon. His father (who, at the time was operating the water and sewer systems in Austin) put him to work at the water department. A short time later, he was running the system.

The district is supported from monthly billing revenues and also receives tax support from Lander County. However, to implement improvements, the system must pur-

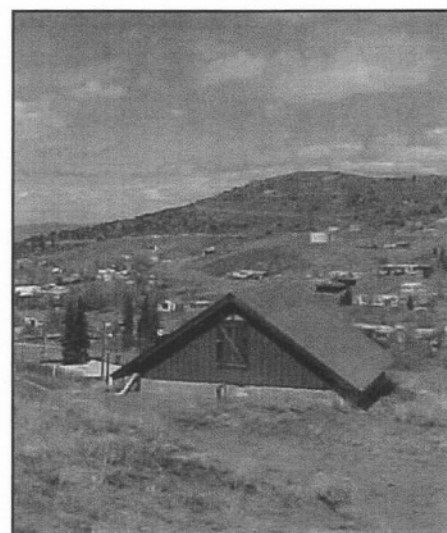
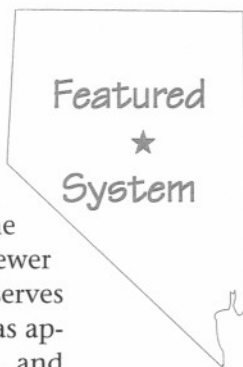
sue other funding sources. In 1983 a preliminary engineering report revealed a need for water infrastruc-

ture improvements. The needed improvements were divided into three phases. Phase One included new water distribution lines throughout town and improvements to collection boxes at Pony Springs and Marshall Canyon Springs.

In 1984, Williams and the board, Louis Lani, Roy Salisbury, Mitch Cantrell and Ray Williams, Jr., pursued funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture-Rural Development (USDA) and the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). With system obligation fees and funding approval from these agencies, Phase One became a reality.

Pony Springs and Marshall Canyon Springs were the main sources of potable water but were vulnerable to drought, and the old well had sanding problems. Phase Two was implemented and funded from In-

terim Finance, AB 198 and another CDBG grant. The improvements in Phase Two included a new well, two boosters, a telemetry control system and water storage. The new well was drilled approximately 1 ½ miles northwest of Austin in the Reese River Valley.



The Austin system has roughly 300 connections, including 30 commercial accounts. Since the 1980s, it has been improved using state and federal funds.

Phase Three is now underway and includes system looping and tying the Forest Service buildings into the system. The projected cost for this project is \$115,000, and the system is pursuing funding from USDA for a grant/loan agreement with a 75/25 percentage. The pay back for this loan is approximately \$30,000. Approximately \$8,500-\$9,000 in hook-up fees will be charged to the U.S. Forest Service to lighten the local cost.

This is an impressive story, considering the size of the system. It shows what can be done when a system manager and board members work together in the best interests of the system. Ray Williams III is an excellent manager and an asset to his community. ♠

Spotlight on infrastructure

(Continued from page 4)

If the AWWA funding gap figures of \$1,100 to \$6,900 per connection are added to the current spending estimate, a rehabilitation project range of \$2,590 to \$13,300 could be attained.

Using the Nevada examples, it appears that AWWA's funding gap range is appropriate. Large-scale infrastructure rehabilitation can be completed, but only if the funds are available. AWWA's estimate of the funding gap appears to be accurate, but those funds are needed now rather than later to keep

pace with the demands of infrastructure rehabilitation.

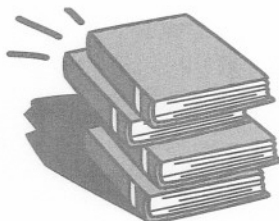
Rural water and wastewater systems should update capital improvement plans annually to reflect current system rehabilitation needs and make those needs known to funders, decision makers and associations.

Next, the national groups should conduct a rehabilitation cost analysis of rural systems and gather rural data. Future studies must clarify what percentage of the rehabilitation the estimates are based on, and the role that new standards, such as arsenic, play in affecting those costs. ♠

RESOURCE ROUND-UP

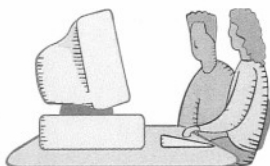
AWWA Bookstore

AWWA has many resources available for sale, including the Chlorination and Chloramination Handbook; Routine Coliform Sample for Water Systems Video; Water Treatment Operator handbook; Water System Security: A Field Guide; Emergency Planning for Water Utilities; Safety Practices for Water Utilities, Simplified Procedures for Water Examination Drought Management Handbook; and Water Treatment Operator Handbook. To order, call AWWA customer service 800/926-7337 or order online at www.awwa.org/bookstore.



Let's talk wastewater

The National Small Flows Clearinghouse maintains an online discussion group for wastewater professionals and others with an interest in small community wastewater issues. Post a question or initiate some dialogue—users may read messages that others have posted, reply to them, ask questions or make statements. The Discussion Group is at www.nsfcc.wvu.edu/forum/index.html.



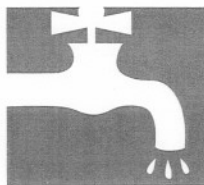
More SRF money available soon

Nevada's 2002 allotment from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) is \$8 million. When combined with the state match, there will be close to \$10 million to support the loan fund for water system improvements, technical assistance and training opportunities. For more information on water system loans or assistance, contact Adele Basham, Supervisor, DWSRF, 775/687-4750, ext. 265.



Report of the Walkerton Inquiry: A Summary

This 35-page pamphlet documents what went wrong in a small town in Ontario, Canada, when the drinking water system became contaminated with deadly bacteria. Seven people died and 2,300 became ill. Copies are available from Phil Walsack, RCAC, at 775/882-8887 or pwalsack@rcac.org.



State of Nevada water certification exams

All exams will be proctored some time during the week of the date listed. Examinees will be contacted by a proctor to schedule testing. The final water operator certification test for 2002 is scheduled for the week of Dec. 2. Info: Debra Kaye, 775/834-8100.

Wastewater certification exams

Wastewater certification exams will be given the second Thursday in October in Las Vegas and Ely. Info: 702/433-1498.

Community College of Southern Nevada Wastewater and Water Technology Program

Info: LeAnna Risso, 702/434-6600 ext. 6418.

WWET training in Clark County

Info: Gladys Alford, 702/258-3834; see www.wwet.org for a current training calendar.

UNR – Colleges of Agriculture, Biotechnology, and Natural Resources & Cooperative Extension

Videoconference Training Calendar 2002

October 11, November 22 — Reno and Rural Locations — UNR videoconference classes on water systems operation, maintenance and management. For information, locations, topics or to be added to the mailing list, contact Crystel Montecinos at 775/784-6853.

Ride the wave of new water regulations

CA-NV-AWWA Small Systems Workshop

Elko — Jan. 9, 2003

Red Lion Hotel and Casino

If you are a small system owner, operator, volunteer, manager or board member (or all of the above), this workshop is for you. Learn about operator certification, the arsenic rule, ESWTR, sampling, monitoring, treatment options, and funding, including loans and grants. Network with other water system managers, operators, regulators and consultants. Contact hours are available. This workshop is supported by the EPA.

Information: CA-NV AWWA, 909/481-7200

Training Calendar 2002 - 2003

♣ **October 2** – Winnemucca – NvRWA fire hydrant repair (3 hours) system security/emergency response (3 hours). Info: 775/884-2055.

♣ **October 3** – Fernley – NvRWA water system management and finance: capacity development (2 hours); project management plan (2 hours). Info: 775/884-2055.

♣ **October 14-17** — Reno — AWWA CA-NV Section Fall Conference, including Small Systems Sessions. Info: 909/481-7200.

♣ **October 15-16** – Pahrump – Excavation Safety. Free training for Nevada operators presented by Nevada State Health Division and Arasmith Consulting. Register: 775/882-8887.

♣ **October 16** – Mesquite – NvRWA confined space (4 hours) excavation awareness (3 hours). Info: 775/884-2055.

♣ **October 24-25** – Sandy, Utah – AWWA Seminar: Basics of Water Treatment & Distribution for Operators. Info: www.awwa.org/seminars.

♣ **October 30** – Reno, Elko, Tonopah, Carson City, Las Vegas – Videoconference: Arsenic Treatment Options for Small Systems in Nevada, presented by UNR and Cooperative Extension, sponsored by the Nevada State Health Division, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Info: 775/784-6853.

♣ **November 12-14** – Reno – Electrical Fundamentals. Free training for Nevada operators presented by Nevada State Health Division and Arasmith Consulting. Register: 775/882-8887.

♣ **November 13** – Yerington – NvRWA control of hazardous energy (3 hours). Info: 775/884-2055.

♣ **November 20** – Ely – NvRWA system security/emergency response (3 hours). Info: 775/884-2055.

♣ **December 4** – Pahrump – NvRWA Cla-Val (4 hours). Info: 775/884-2055.

2003

♣ **January 8** – Pahrump – NvRWA wellhead protection (3 hours). Info: 775/884-2055.

♣ **January 9** — Elko — CA-NV AWWA small systems workshop on new water regulations at the Red Lion Hotel and Casino. Info: 909/481-7200.

♣ **January 22** – Hadley – NvRWA confined space (3 hours). Info: 775/884-2055.

♣ **February 5** – Minden – NvRWA confined space (4 hours) excavation awareness (3 hours). Info: 775/884-2055.

♣ **February 19** – Ely – NvRWA wellhead protection (3 hours). Info: 775/884-2055.

March, 2003 – Carson City – NvRWA symposium on training needs. Date to be determined. Info: 775/884-2055.

♣ **March 4-6** – Sparks – NvRWA technical conference, John Ascuaga's Nugget. Info: 775/884-2055.



**CA-NV-AWWA
2002 Annual Fall Conference
Reno, Nevada**

Registration: www.ca-nv-awwa.org

Hotel: The Hilton Reno Resort & Casino,
Reservations, 800/648-5080.

Conference Overview: Exhibits, keynote luncheon and reception, technical programs, workshops, golf tournament.

Information: 909/481-7200

Register now!

♣ This symbol designates training pre-approved by the Nevada State Health Division for continuing education units (CEU) credit. Other training may be eligible for CEUs but is not yet pre-approved. Before attending any training, contact the Health Division at 775/687-6615 ext. 235 for approval. Ten hours of approved training equals 1 CEU. A different ratio applies for safety training. Contact Steve Brockway at 775/687-6615 ext.235 for details.

Nevada Drinking Water and Wastewater Training Coalition

American Water Works Association California/Nevada Section

www.ca-nv-awwa.org
Philip Walsack, Smaller Utilities
Committee Chair, 775/882-8887
Nicole Schreuder, training, 909/291-2103

Indian Health Service

Dominic Wolf, 775/784-5327

Nevada Division of Environmental Protection

www.state.nv.us/ndep/index.htm
Leo Drozdoff — Water Pollution Control,
775/687-9416
Nevan Kane — Wellhead Protection,
775/687-9426
Jon Palm — AB 198 Water Grant
Program, 775/687-9433

Nevada Rural Water Association

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Dana Pennington, ext. 237

Nevada Water Environment Association

www.wef.org
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Starlin Jones, 775/861-4104
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Public Utilities Commission of Nevada

www.state.nv.us/puc
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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9

www.epa.gov/region09
Marvin Young, 415/744-1847

USDA-Rural Development

www.usda.gov/rus/water/index.htm
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Kay Vematter, 702/262-9047 ext. 113

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Dean Adams, 775/784-1474
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and Nevada Cooperative Extension
www.unce.unr.edu/swp
Mark Walker, 775/784-1938

Water/Wastewater Education and Training Consortium of Southern Nevada — WWET

www.wwet.org
Marie Pollack, Chair, 702/298-3113
Gladys Alford, Registrar, 702/258-3834

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Nevada Drinking Water and Wastewater Training Coalition

Water Lines

Fall 2002



This issue of *Water Lines* is printed on recycled and recyclable paper.



Water Lines Special Insert

Sources of Technical Assistance for Rural Nevada's Utility and Infrastructure Systems

What is "Technical Assistance"?

Technical Assistance is skill or capacity-building provided either one-on-one or to very small groups. The need is usually identified by the individual receiving assistance, and the provider begins the assistance with this need in mind. Technical assistance is often provided "on-the-job" or at the worksite. Such assistance includes improving system operations, maintenance and management; accessing funding; budgeting; rate setting; planning for future needs; and training boards, operators and managers.

Technical Assistance Resources

American Water Works Association (AWWA), California/Nevada Section

AWWA provides technical assistance through training seminars and publications. The California/Nevada section of AWWA holds spring and fall conferences which usually include a small systems day.

Contact: Philip Walsack 775/882-8887

E-mail: pwalsack@rcac.org

Website: www.ca-nv-awwa.org

Indian Health Service

The Indian Health Service provides technical assistance for tribes seeking to address health and safety needs related to water, wastewater and solid waste. Community-wide and individual assistance is available.

Contact: George Pringle 775/784-5327

Nevada Commission on Economic Development

Rural Community and Economic Development, Community Development Block Grant

The Nevada Commission on Economic Development administers the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. CDBG provides funds for planning grants for eligible local governments which can be used to complete preliminary engineering reports and capital improvement plans, as well as other planning needs. In addition, CDBG has a one percent set-aside which is used to build technical, managerial and financial capability at the local government level. Staff is also available for consultation with local communities.

Contact: Gene Etcheverry 775/687-1812

E-mail: cdbg2@bizopp.state.nv.us

Nevada Department of Taxation

Nevada Department of Taxation provides technical financial assistance upon request from local governments under their jurisdiction. When the Department declares that a local government is in a severe financial emergency, the Department will manage the system.

Contact: Gordon Hella 775/687-4892

Nevada Division of Environmental Protection

The Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) operates a revolving loan fund for publicly-owned wastewater treatment plants, sewer projects and non-point source pollution control projects, and provides assistance to communities applying for loans from the fund. NDEP also has a wastewater circuit rider program. The purpose of the program is to provide help to wastewater systems, including tribes, to ensure that systems are being operated correctly, and that operators and boards are receiving administrative assistance to prepare for long term capital and maintenance needs.

Contact: Leo Drozdoff 775/687-9416

NDEP's Bureau of Water Pollution Control provides wellhead protection technical assistance including grants which are available periodically to public water systems, local governments and tribes. In addition, NDEP staff can assist with delineating wellhead protection areas and performing technical analysis.

Contact: Nevan Kane 775/687-9426

Nevada Rural Water Association

Nevada Rural Water Association (NvRWA) provides technical assistance and training in the areas of water, wastewater and solid waste to Nevada communities and systems. NvRWA has water and wastewater circuit riders who visit system operators to help them and answer their questions. Their groundwater technician assists communities in writing wellhead protection plans and in developing public education in the area of water pollution prevention. They provide training for water system operators on a variety of topics, for CEU credit.

Contact: Georgia Greenrod 775/884-2055

E-mail: nvrwa@pyramid.net

Website: www.nvrwa.org

Nevada State Health Division

The Nevada State Health Division funds a variety of technical assistance programs (referred to in this insert) through its grant from EPA. It contracts with third-party providers for no-cost technical, managerial, and financial assistance to public water systems. In addition, Health Division staff is available to assist through field visits and help from public health engineers and environmental health specialists. It is anticipated that the Division will be providing financial assistance to operators for operator certification training, but that program is not yet available.

Contact: Adele Basham 775/687-6615 ext. 265

E-mail: abasham@nvhd.state.nv.us

www.state.nv.us/health/bhps

Technical Assistance Resources

Nevada Water Environment Association

Nevada Water Environment Association provides training for wastewater system operators several times a year.

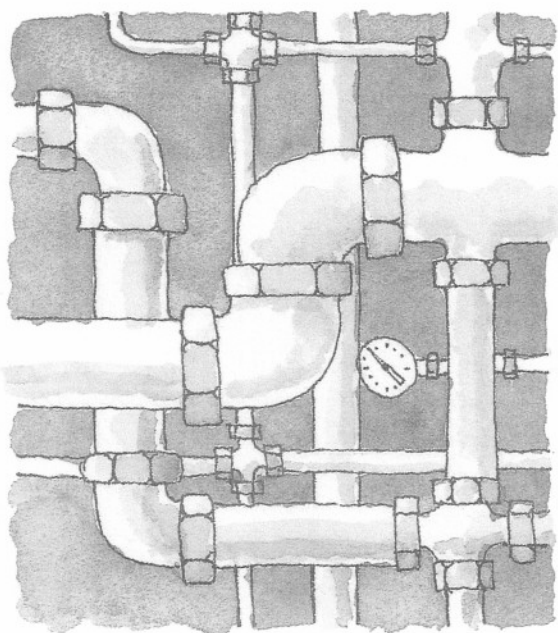
Contact: Rick Warner 775/856-7300

Public Utilities Commission of Nevada

The Public Utilities Commission of Nevada (PUC) provides regulatory review of jurisdictional water and wastewater systems. The PUC can authorize surcharges to provide needed revenue to privately owned water and sewer systems for capital improvement projects. The PUC encourages systems to attend training. Costs of training may be recovered from customers through the utility's rates. PUC staff evaluate water system capabilities in the "G.O. 26" utility assessment.

Contact: Steve McGoff 775/687-6040

E-mail: stevemcgoff@puc.state.nv.us



Rural Community Assistance Corporation

Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC) specializes in providing technical assistance to rural communities in the West, including Nevada. From its Carson City office, RCAC assists rural communities, water and wastewater systems, and nonprofit groups to make improvements in housing, water, wastewater, and solid waste. RCAC also convenes the Infrastructure for Nevada's Communities (INC) group, to help coordinate the delivery of resources related to infrastructure needs. RCAC produces the *Water Lines* newsletter for the Nevada Drinking Water and Wastewater Training Coalition. RCAC's services are free to the community, and are paid for through contracts and grants from agencies such as USDA-Rural Development, USEPA, and the Nevada State Health Division. RCAC also helps communities who are interested in borrowing from its loan fund to understand the procedures and requirements.

Contact: Philip Walsack 775/882-8887

E-mail: pwalsack@rcac.org

Website: www.rcac.org

University of Nevada, Reno — Nevada Cooperative Extension

The Nevada Cooperative Extension provides information and education, including source water protection materials, educational programs and conference planning.

Contact: Mark Walker 775/784-1938

E-mail: mwalker@equinox.unr.edu

Website: www.unce.unr.edu/swp

USDA-Rural Development

USDA-Rural Development offers technical assistance with guidelines for preliminary engineering reports, feasibility reports, cost estimates, and financing and management matters in connection with proposed improvements. Staff are also available to answer questions and provide assistance to borrowers and potential borrowers for USDA-Rural Development's loan and grant programs for water, wastewater, and community facilities. USDA-Rural Development funds technical assistance activities by third parties such as Rural Community Assistance Corporation and Nevada Rural Water Association.

Contact: Mike Holm 775/887-1222 ext. 26

E-mail: mike.holm@nv.usda.gov

Website: www.usda.gov/rus/water/index.htm



WWET — Water/Wastewater Education and Training Consortium of Southern Nevada

WWET provides training opportunities for water and wastewater operators in southern Nevada.

Contact: Marie Pollack 702/298-3113

E-mail: mpollack@co.clark.nv.us

Website: www.wwet.org

Western Nevada Development District

For projects in Carson City, Churchill, Douglas, Lyon, Mineral, Pershing and Storey counties and area tribal governments, WNDD serves its membership as a regional resource center, and provides shared professional staff to provide planning, implementation and technical assistance including grant writing and grant administration.

Contact: Mary Lou Bentley 775/883-7333

E-mail: wndd@aol.com